A. PSP Cover Sheet

Proposal # 2001 - D-200 (Office Use Only)

PSP Cover Sheet (Attach to the front of each proposal)

Proposal Title:	Cosumnes/Mokelumne Corridor Floodplain Acquisitions, Management, and Restoration Planning
Applicant Name:	The Nature Conservancy
Contact Name:	Michael Eaton
Mailing Address:	13501 Franklin Blvd
Telephone:	916-683-1699
FAX:	916-683-1702
E-mail:	meaton@cosumnes.org

Amount of funding requested: $3,044,342 Some entities charge different costs dependent on the source of the funds. If it is different for state or federal funds list below.
State cost _____ Federal cost _____

Cost share partners? _____**Yes** _X_**No**
The Cosumnes River Project is a cooperative partnership that benefits from the expertise, management and financial contributions of all eight land-owning partners, as well as other funding sources including the USDA's Wetland Reserve Program, CVPIA's b(1) "other" and Conservation Programs, North American Wetland Conservation Act and the Clean Water State Revolving Fund.

Indicate the Topic for which you are applying (check only one box).

[ ]	Natural Flow Regimes	[ ]	Beyond the Riparian Corridor
[ ]	Nonnative Invasive Species	[ ]	Local Watershed Stewardship
[ ]	Channel Dynamics/Sediment Transport	[ ]	Environmental Education
[x]	Flood Management	[ ]	Special Status Species Surveys and Studies
[ ]	Shallow Water Tidal/Marsh Habitat	[ ]	Fishery Monitoring, Assessment and Research
[ ]	Contaminants	[ ]	Fish Screens

What county or counties is the project located in? Sacramento County

What CALFED ecozone is the project located in? See attached list and indicate number. Be as specific as possible East-side Delta Tributaries, Number 11

Indicate the type of applicant (check only one box):

[ ]	State agency	[ ]	Federal agency
[ ]	Public/Non-profit joint venture	[x]	Non-profit
[ ]	Local government/district	[ ]	Tribes
[ ]	University	[ ]	Private party
[ ]	Other: _____		

Indicate the primary species which the proposal addresses (check all that apply):

- [x] San Joaquin and Ease-side Delta tributaries fall-run chinook salmon
- [ ] Winter-run chinook salmon
- [ ] Late-fall run chinook salmon
- [ ] Delta smelt
- [x] Splittail
- [x] Green sturgeon (possibly)
- [ ] White Sturgeon
- [x] Waterfowl and Shorebirds
- [x] Migratory birds
- [ ] Spring-run chinook salmon
- [ ] Fall-run chinook salmon
- [ ] Longfin smelt
- [x] Steelhead trout (possibly)
- [ ] Striped bass
- [ ] All chinook species
- [ ] All anadromous salmonids
- [ ] American shad
- [x] Other listed T/E species: Greater sandhill crane, giant garter snake

Indicate the type of project (check only one box):

- [ ] Research/Monitoring
- [ ] Pilot/Demo Project
- [x] Full-scale Implementation
- [ ] Watershed Planning
- [ ] Education

Is this a next-phase of an ongoing project? Yes___ No_X_

Have you received funding from CALFED before? Yes _X_ No____

If yes, list project title and CALFED number:

- 1996-MO6. Cosumnes River Preserve-Valensin Ranch.
- 1997-N14A. Cosumnes River Floodplain Acquisition and Management. FWS #10138-8471-0003
- 1999-F04. McCormack-Williamson Acquisition, CALFED Directed Action. FWS #10138-8471-0003
- 1998-B17. Cosumnes River Floodplain Acquisition and Restoration. DOI # 1425-98-FG-20-16880
- 1998-F19. Cosumnes River Floodplain Acquisition and Restoration. FWS #r11420-9-JO46
- 1999-F03. McCormack-Williamson Wildlife-friendly Management Project. FWS # 10138-9-JO15.
- 1999-C01. Cosumnes River Feasibility Study. (No contract)

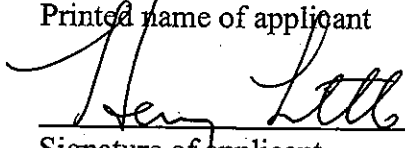
Have you received funding from CVPIA before? Yes X No____

- Habitat Restoration Program (Section (b)(1) "other"). Howard Ranch Acquisition. 1448-11300-98-9
- Habitat Restoration Program (Section (b)(1) "other"). Horizon Organic Dairy Cons. Easmt. 00-FG-20-0026
- Habitat Restoration Program (Section (b)(1) "other").Valensin Ranch. 1448-0001-96648

By signing below, the applicant declares the following:

- The truthfulness of all representations in their proposal;
- The individual signing the form is entitled to submit the application on behalf of the applicant (if the applicant is an entity or organization); and
- The person submitting the application has read and understood the conflict of interest and confidentiality discussion in the PSP (Section 2.4) and waives any and all rights to privacy and confidentiality of the proposal on behalf of the applicant, to the extent as provided in the Section.

Henry Little
Printed name of applicant



Signature of applicant

B. Executive Summary

Title of Project:	Cosumnes/Mokelumne Corridor Floodplain Acquisitions, Management, and Restoration Planning
Amount Requested:	$3,044,342
Applicant Name:	Michael Eaton
Address:	13501 Franklin Blvd., Galt, CA 95632
Phone:	916-683-1699
FAX:	916-683-1702
E-mail of primary contact:	Meaton@cosumnes.org
Participants & collaborators:	The Nature Conservancy and Cosumnes River Preserve partners.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) requests **$3,044,342** to conduct Phase I of a two part flood management and ecosystem restoration project located in Sacramento County, in the East-side Delta Tributaries ecozone. The project will ultimately result in 600 acres of land along the Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers incorporated into non-structural flood management practices of the Cosumnes River Preserve (Maps 1 and 2). This is a full-scale implementation project submitted under the Beyond the Riparian Corridor category. The expected project outcome is the purchase of a fee or easement interest in at least one and possibly several high-priority parcels within the target area.

In Phase I, TNC will identify and acquire, from willing sellers, suitable parcels and conduct start-up stewardship activities, including baseline monitoring and preliminary restoration planning. Phase II, funding for which is not included in this proposal, will see the implementation of floodplain restoration and incorporation of the project into an ongoing, comprehensive monitoring program to address hypotheses that can inform future management. TNC anticipates completing Phase I of the program within three years.

The Cosumnes River Preserve is currently the site of two levee breaches that are being studied and monitored by agencies and institutions, such as UC Davis. Results from these studies lead to our hypothesis that breaching levees can lower peak flood flows while also enabling floodplain restoration which benefits floodplain dependant species through reestablishment of natural floodplain processes. This project will provide additional site(s) to implement floodplain restoration and test this hypothesis on a larger scale. An implemented restoration project could answer questions such as (1) what is the optimal design of levee alterations for restoration and flood management and (2) what is the ecosystem response to restoring floodplain connectivity. The primary objectives of this proposal are to:

- Protect existing riparian, wetland, and aquatic habitats and associated species.
- Increase the capacity of the floodplain to store floodwaters by restoring channel-floodplain connectivity.
- Reestablish riparian, wetland, and aquatic habitats through restoration of natural processes and the reconnection of river to floodplains and tidal marshes.
- Facilitate population expansion of species associated with the Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers, particularly eastside tributary fall-run chinook salmon, Sacramento splittail, giant garter snake, greater sandhill crane, neotropical migrant bird species and waterfowl.
- Protect the habitat values on existing farmland by purchasing conservation easements that promote wildlife-friendly farming practices.

The following ERP goals can be addressed by this project: Goal 1 – recovery of at-risk species, Goal 2 – rehabilitation of ecosystem processes and biotic communities, and Goal 4 – reestablishment of functional habitats

All restoration sites will be monitored to establish baseline conditions and floral and faunal response to restoration efforts. The results of this monitoring will allow us to provide increasingly optimal conditions for species and habitats of concern through adaptive management. We believe the successful completion of Phase I of this project is a requirement for restoration actions in Phase II.

C. Project Description

Statement of the Problem

Problem

The Eastside Delta Tributaries Ecological Management Zone is impacted by several stressors to ecological processes, habitats, and resources (ERPP Vol. II, p. 355):

Separation of rivers from their floodplains – On the Cosumnes River, levees have reduced seasonal inundation of the floodplain and increased incision of the river channel (Philip Williams and Associates 1997). Loss of inundated floodplain area may contribute to the extremely low groundwater levels near Highway 99 (Montgomery and Watson 1997, G. Fogg, UC Davis, pers. comm.). Levees constrain geomorphological processes (Mount 1995) that are necessary for establishment of cottonwood-willow forests (e.g. Auble et al. 1994, Mahoney and Rood 1998, Scott et al. 1996).

Riparian vegetation removal – Riparian forests along the Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers have been cleared for agriculture and flood control (P&D Technologies 1992). Loss of riparian habitat affects numerous at-risk species dependant upon the vegetation, raises water temperatures, and increases bank erosion.

Poor land use – Ongoing conversion of existing annual croplands and pastureland to vineyards and urban development will destroy critical habitat for greater sandhill crane and Swainson's hawk, which forage in the open farm fields and pastures (P&D Technologies 1992, Littlefield and Ivey 2000). In addition, upland species such as migratory songbirds, long-billed curlew, and burrowing owls are negatively impacted by farmland conversion.

All of these stressors have degraded the habitat for resident and anadromous fishes such as Sacramento splittail, delta smelt and chinook salmon, as well as other aquatic and terrestrial species along the Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers.

Addressing these stressors to at-risk species requires both restoration of critical hydrologic processes and protection from further habitat degradation caused by incompatible land uses. The Nature Conservancy and its partners at the Cosumnes River Preserve have seen positive results when implementing restoration and protection solutions to these stressors on Preserve lands.

The University of California at Davis has undertaken a comprehensive study of the surface water and groundwater hydrology, geomorphology, water quality, fisheries and aquatic resources of the Cosumnes watershed. Their studies have demonstrated that levee breaches can be used as a restoration tool to restore hydrologic connectivity between floodplain and channel, promote floodplain topography and create diversity in the physical structure of habitat, and promote vegetation establishment (Mount and Florsheim, in preparation). This interdisciplinary program will continue to provide a foundation for long-term monitoring, assessment, and restoration recommendations.

We propose that floodplain restoration is, in many cases, readily achievable, and can produce dramatic results. For example, with two previous levee breaching projects initiated in 1995 and 1997 by TNC, we documented almost immediate colonization by willows, cottonwoods and other riparian woody species (Tu, submitted manuscripts a & b) as well as almost immediate occupancy of the shallow-flooded habitat by significant numbers of juvenile chinook salmon and Sacramento splittail (Whitener and Kennedy 1999, Kennedy and Whitener 2000). In addition to cost-effective habitat restoration, these projects increased floodplain storage and reduced the flood stage in the river, as demonstrated in hydrologic modeling conducted prior to our first levee breach. Moreover, the potential for groundwater recharge is enhanced.

The objectives of the proposed project are to:

- Protect existing riparian, wetland, and aquatic habitats and associated species.
- Increase the capacity of the floodplain to store floodwaters by restoring channel-floodplain connectivity.

- Reestablish riparian, wetland, and aquatic habitats through restoration of natural processes and the reconnection of river to floodplains and tidal marshes.
- Facilitate population expansion of species associated with the Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers, particularly eastside tributary fall-run chinook salmon, Sacramento splittail, giant garter snakes, greater sandhill cranes, neotropical migrant bird species and waterfowl.
- Protect the habitat values on existing farmland by purchasing conservation easements that promote wildlife-friendly farming.

Conceptual Model

The river's hydrologic regime is the principal process that shapes and sustains floodplain and riparian habitat (e.g. Auble et al. 1994, Mount 1995, Scott et al. 1996, Mahoney and Rood 1998). Under natural conditions, increased runoff from winter storms resulted in increased flows in the river. These flood flows overtopped the banks of the Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers and spread out across the floodplain. Levees currently constrain the river's ability to access the floodplain. Alteration or removal of levees, such as breaching in discrete locations and/or creation of setback levees, provides the opportunity to reconnect the river to its floodplain, which will produce the following outcomes:

- Floodwaters spread across greater area of floodplain → increase holding capacity of floodplain → attenuate flood peak and reduces flow velocity in river → decrease risk of flooding to surrounding and downstream areas.
- Floodwaters deposit fresh sediment and plant propagules on floodplain → establish cottonwood and willow (early successional stage forest), which provides riparian habitat for wildlife → later develop into valley oak forest.
- Floodwaters deposit fresh sediment on floodplain → create diverse topography → increase habitat diversity.
- Floodwaters inundate floodplain → create seasonal wetlands → provide habitat for wintering waterfowl and native fishes (Sacramento splittail and young of year (YOY) chinook salmon).
- Floodwaters inundate floodplain → increase residence time of water → recharge groundwater.
- Reduces levee maintenance → fosters return of natural river geomorphologic processes → creates river meanders and sandbars → creates riparian forest habitat.

Hypotheses

Our working hypothesis: levee alteration (breaches and setbacks) will enable floodplain restoration (ERP Strategic Goal 4) and benefit floodplain-dependent species (Goal 1) through reestablishment of natural floodplain processes (Goal 2).

Monitoring and research projects of restoration actions taken along the Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers, as carried out by universities, nonprofit organizations, and volunteers, are providing ample evidence of the benefits of reestablishment of natural floodplain processes. Fisheries studies have documented the use of the floodplain by spawning and YOY Sacramento splittail and by YOY chinook salmon from the Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers (Whitener and Kennedy 1999, Kennedy and Whitener 2000). Geomorphic studies indicate that sediment is quickly deposited on the floodplain, thus recreating more natural topography to the floodplain and providing fresh substrate for riparian recruitment (Mount and Florsheim in preparation). Studies of the young cottonwoods and willows show that vegetative reproduction (from cuttings) can be as or more important than seed recruitment in creating new forest (Tu submitted manuscripts a & b).

Phase I, as outlined for this proposal, involves acquisition of promising sites and development of a preliminary restoration plan. Phase II will see the implementation of restoration and monitoring to address several

hypotheses that can inform future management. Examples of uncertainties that could be addressed further with an implemented restoration project include:

- How does the type of levee alteration (single or multiple breaches, or setback levees) affect the development and quality of restored floodplain and riparian habitat? Compare with other two levee breaches on Cosumnes Preserve.
- How do native fishes use floodplain habitat?
- How does the pattern of inundation affect riparian recruitment?
- In areas where the groundwater table is low, does increased residence time of water on the floodplain contribute significantly to groundwater recharge?

Adaptive Management

Evaluating the effectiveness of our restoration actions, and adjusting our management practices accordingly, are integral parts of TNC's science-based conservation program. In 1999, The Nature Conservancy and UC Davis established the Cosumnes Science Consortium to: 1) conduct baseline scientific studies, 2) design and implement monitoring programs, 3) increase understanding of basic riparian ecosystem processes, and 4) design and implement studies to measure the success or failure of conservation programs and adaptive management strategies implemented in the watershed. This partnership has enabled TNC to move forward with restoration efforts that are both informed and tracked by the highest quality science. The Consortium will provide feedback into the design of riparian and floodplain restoration actions at properties to be acquired as part of this project.

Research at the Preserve's successful levee breaches by UC Davis and others supports extending the lessons learned to a large-scale implementation project. Site-specific information, however, will be necessary to inform the actual restoration design for a particular location. Hydrological modeling efforts currently underway at UC Davis (L Kavvas and J Mount, pers. comm.) of the entire lower Cosumnes River will guide selection of suitable sites (in Phase I) and placement of levee breaches (in Phase II) for the project. Sites will be selected for their ability to support flooded seasonal habitat, maintain valuable upland agricultural habitat and allow riparian restoration; as well as the potential to increase floodplain capacity to hold floodwaters and attenuate the river's flood peak. While there in much more that can be learned about the response of species populations to this type of restoration action, we believe the evidence supports a large scale implementation project.

Educational Objectives

The goal of the Cosumnes River Preserve's research, outreach, and public relations program is to share the successes and lessons of this watershed-scale effort to protect and restore the habitats of the Cosumnes River floodplain and upper watersheds.

Proposed Scope of Work

Location

The properties proposed for acquisition, restoration, and management are all located in southern Sacramento County, in the East Side Delta Tributaries ecozone, within the floodplains of the Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers. See Maps 1 and 2. The Project's center point is 121 22' 30" E, 38 17' 30" N.

Approach

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) requests $3,044,342 to acquire, conduct baseline monitoring and start-up stewardship activities on, and develop preliminary restoration planning for lands in the floodplain of the Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers. For this project, TNC has drawn up an integrated plan and budget which cover the purchase of fee and/or easement interest in floodplain properties as well as a number of primary

conservation activities. A second phase, not included within the scope of this proposal, is spelled out in order to demonstrate the intended outcome of this project.

Phase I
Land acquisition. Fee simple and conservation easement interests.

Start-up stewardship. Activities associated with the acquired property including baseline monitoring that establishes the existing status of vegetation and habitat use; preliminary restoration planning needed to effectively restore the river floodplain; and, depending on the property acquired, management activities such as conducting baseline archaeological surveys, installing and repairing infrastructure, and/or debris clearing.

Phase II (NOT proposed for funding within this proposal)
Floodplain restoration. Implementation of restoration plan including potential levee alteration.

Monitoring and adaptive management. Incorporation of project into an ongoing monitoring program designed to identify the effects of floodplain restoration and inform future actions.

These activities make up an ambitious program for addressing CALFED's high-priority objectives relating to the Eastside Delta Ecological Zone, and particularly reconstruction of the floodplain. Of equal importance is the fact that these activities ensure that conservation outcomes are permanent and that the effects and sequence of our restoration actions are completely documented. Phase I is described in greater detail below:

Land Acquisition.

Funds are requested for a block grant to provide for acquisition of properties not yet under option, but which are foreseen to be available for purchase in the near future. Depending upon the site, the applicant will propose the purchase of a fee or easement interest in land. Fee simple acquisition prices are averaging around $4000/ac.; however, some of the property may contain expensive improvements, such as vineyards. In these cases, the price could be much higher. Easement costs are averaging around $1,500.

Due to the nature of a project that includes altered hydrology, intensive restoration, adaptive management, and monitoring activities anticipated for such lands, we feel that only acquisition of *fee title*, as opposed to an *easement interest*, is appropriate on lands that will be restored to active floodplain. Title will vest with The Nature Conservancy. For those properties which TNC will own, we will develop an appropriate title reservation or other instrument to ensure that the properties are permanently dedicated to conservation objectives. The Nature Conservancy anticipates that fee interests of the properties acquired may be transferred in the future to a qualified agency or nonprofit organization, at the discretion of the granting agency. In this case, it is expected that a reasonable portion of management funds, if provided under this grant, may be transferred to the new partner agency or organization for the continuing long-term management of the properties.

We have employed a number of rigorous hydrological and biological analyses to identify the target acquisition area, including the following:

- A hydrological study was conducted by Philip Williams and Associates (1997) to analyze restoration opportunities along the Cosumnes.
- A report by crane biologists has identified the highest priority sites that provide foraging, loafing, and roosting for the state-listed Greater sandhill cranes (Littlefield and Ivey 2000).
- Ongoing studies by UC Davis of floodplain topography, surface water hydrology, and surface water-groundwater relations are valuable in identifying sites for levee alteration and evaluating potential benefits and impacts to habitat and flood management.

These analyses have helped us identify the most suitable area for fee and easement acquisition, management as a part of the Cosumnes River Preserve, and restoration of the floodplain and associated riparian, wetland, native grassland, aquatic habitats. The target area has a high potential for restoration as it is in the historic floodways

of the Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers, and our previous experience and hydrologic studies indicate that flooding should be easy to reestablish and will produce substantial habitat benefits.

Start-up Stewardship.

Providing quality stewardship of conservation lands involves management of both biological resources and infrastructural needs. Cultural surveys, signage, debris clearing and repair of fencing and roads are some examples of non-biological management responsibilities. Management plans for acquired properties will include infrastructure needs. Subcontractors will be utilized as dictated by the requirements of the properties acquired and will be selected through a competitive bid process.

Initial biological assessments of the existing vegetation will be contracted out and the existing bird use will be documented by expanding the scope of the Point Reyes Bird Observatory's existing Cosumnes River research project, now in its sixth year, or through another subcontract. Subcontractors will be selected through a competitive bidding process, or sole source justification will be provided.

In order to restore floodplain connectivity to properties identified for restoration, hydrological studies will be conducted, permits will be obtained, and outreach to neighboring landowners will begin. This element of the proposal requests staff funding for two years of preliminary work that sets the stage for the restoration of the Rivers' connectivity to their floodplains. Note that in the budget section, only a rough estimate is provided for the costs associated with this activity. We will build on CALFED's direct investment in the Cosumnes Research Group at UC Davis by applying their surface water hydrological model to the properties to evaluate an array of restoration approaches and their potential benefits and impacts to habitat and flood management. The hydrological analysis by Philip Williams and Associates (1997) also identified restoration opportunities along the Cosumnes River. In addition, we expect that the proposed feasibility study by the Army Corps of Engineers will guide restoration planning with its hydrological and hydraulic information and assessment of various restoration alternatives along the Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers.

The activities proposed here will substantially add to completion of the Cosumnes River Preserve, a 13-year old, multi-partner effort that has successfully protected and restored 31,000 acres of riparian forest, seasonal wetland, tidal habitats, vernal pool grasslands, blue oak woodlands, and wildlife-friendly farming along the foothills and floodplains of the Cosumnes River and on Delta islands. Conservation actions on the Preserve have already provided significant benefits for fish, wildlife, flood control, scientific research, and public education. For example, the 1995 levee breach returned 100 acres of formerly farmed floodplain to riparian forest and restored active flooding to a total of 1500 acres, creating a new willow/cottonwood forest. This proposed project will allow TNC to expand these efforts in restoring floodplain to a larger scale. We have and will show how to promote these ecosystem benefits while continuing to sustain agricultural benefits both on-site, by using some of the floodplain to produce annual crops, and offsite, by providing flood management benefits.

Monitoring and Assessment Plans

Measuring the success of our restoration actions is an integral part of The Nature Conservancy's science-based conservation program. The Cosumnes River Preserve has extensive, well-established programs for monitoring species population trends, vegetation changes and indices of ecosystem health that are carried out by universities, nonprofit organizations, and volunteers, as has been indicated above. Many of these monitoring programs, such as bird monitoring, will be immediately extended to the newly acquired lands. Additionally, we will conduct baseline habitat mapping for each property acquired as part of the development of a conservation management plan. The resulting maps will allow the Preserve staff to track restoration as a result of conservation management. Future restoration of the properties through levee setbacks will require intensive monitoring, which will be developed in Phase II.

Data Handling and Storage

Data collected as a result of this project will be presented as reports, documents and photos. The Nature Conservancy intends to maintain the collected data in its offices and intends to provide documents upon request and as appropriate. Appraisals, surveys, and other necessary documents related to real estate transactions are confidential and will be used by The Nature Conservancy without CALFED's prior approval to negotiate acquisition of the conservation easement interests. See also Paragraph below titled "Compliance with Standard Terms and Conditions."

Expected Products/Outcomes

The expected outcome will be acquisition of fee or easement of property/ies along the river that are appropriate sites for future restoration of channel-floodplain connectivity and riparian forest. Work products for Phase I will include baseline studies of the property/ies and a conceptual plan for restoration. Startup stewardship activities will be carried out to set the stage for future restoration. In Phase II (not included in this proposal), findings from monitoring and study of the implemented restoration project will be disseminated via presentations at meetings (i.e. Annual State of the Rivers Symposium) and a written report.

Work Schedule

The tasks for the proposed project are as follows:

Task 1. Acquisition. This task includes all reasonable and necessary due diligence steps that are related to completing the acquisition of fee simple or conservation easement interests, including but not limited to: appraisals, hazardous materials assessments, preparation of baseline easement monitoring reports, surveys (if necessary), title reports and insurance, escrow and closing fees, travel, supplies, salaries and benefits, professional and legal accounting services and other miscellaneous and direct costs, including photographs. TNC anticipates completing acquisition activities within the first two years of the grant period. Given the sometimes extensive negotiations associated with conservation purchases, the acquisitions could continue into the third year. The key milestone will be the acquisition of approximately 600 acres in combined fee and easements.

Task 2. Stewardship. Following acquisition, initial stewardship activities will begin. Stewardship activities are expected in all three years. Key milestones include a completion of a restoration plan, baseline documentation reports and maps, and the preparation of parcels for restoration.

Task 3. Project Management. During the three years of the grant agreement, TNC will oversee all phases of the project, including acquisition and contracts for professional services. The Nature Conservancy will continue to participate in outreach activities promoting wildlife-friendly agriculture and floodplain management.

If CALFED is able to offer only partial funding for the project, the project applicant would be willing to revise the scope of the project accordingly, either by scaling down the project and/or pursuing additional funding sources.

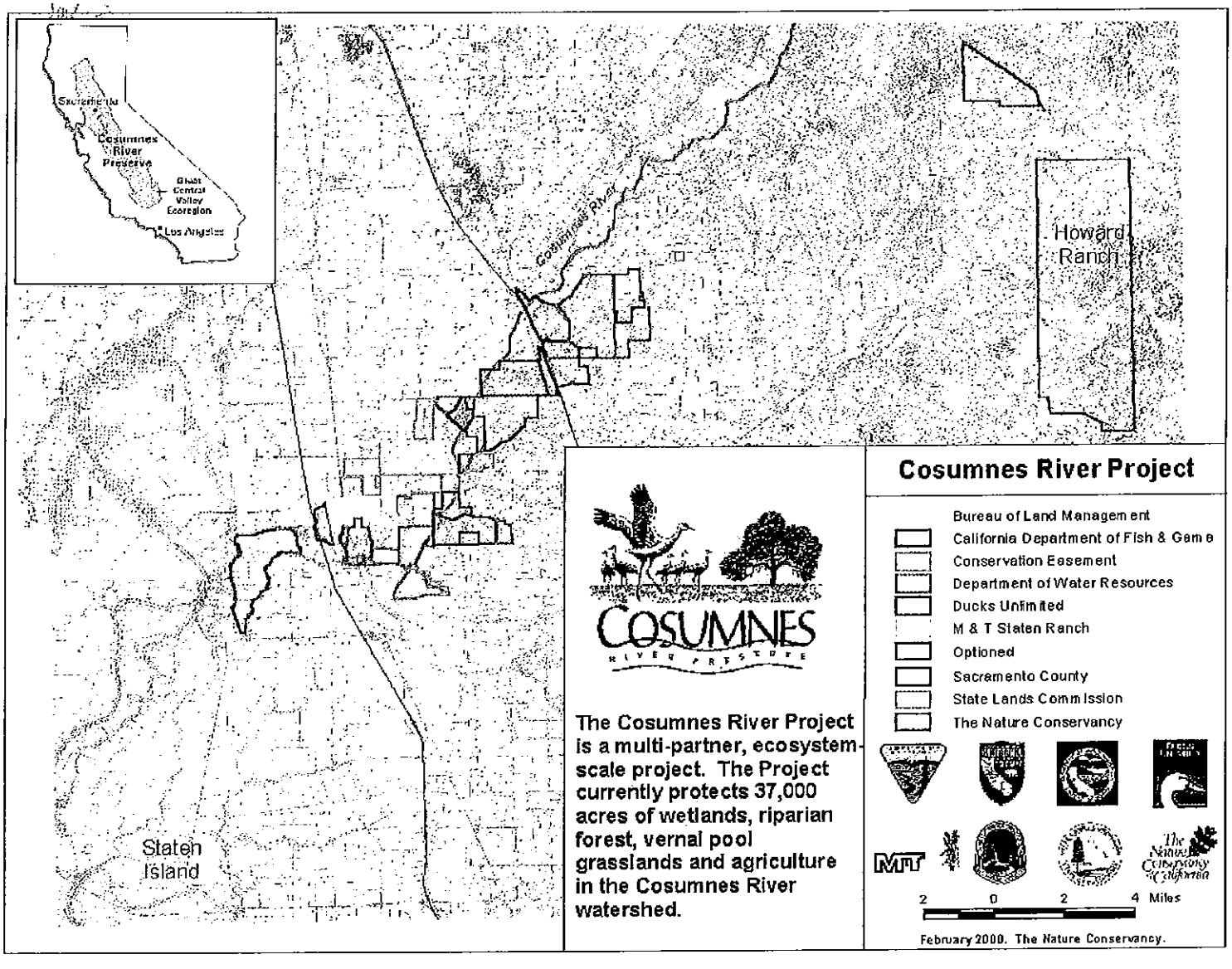
Feasibility

The Nature Conservancy's success in carrying out similar activities at the Cosumnes River over the past 13 years indicates our ability to complete the project within the 3 year term. Property will be acquired from willing sellers prior to development and implementation of any restoration actions. The proposed project represents what The Nature Conservancy considers to be the best alternative for floodplain restoration through reestablishment of natural floodplain processes.

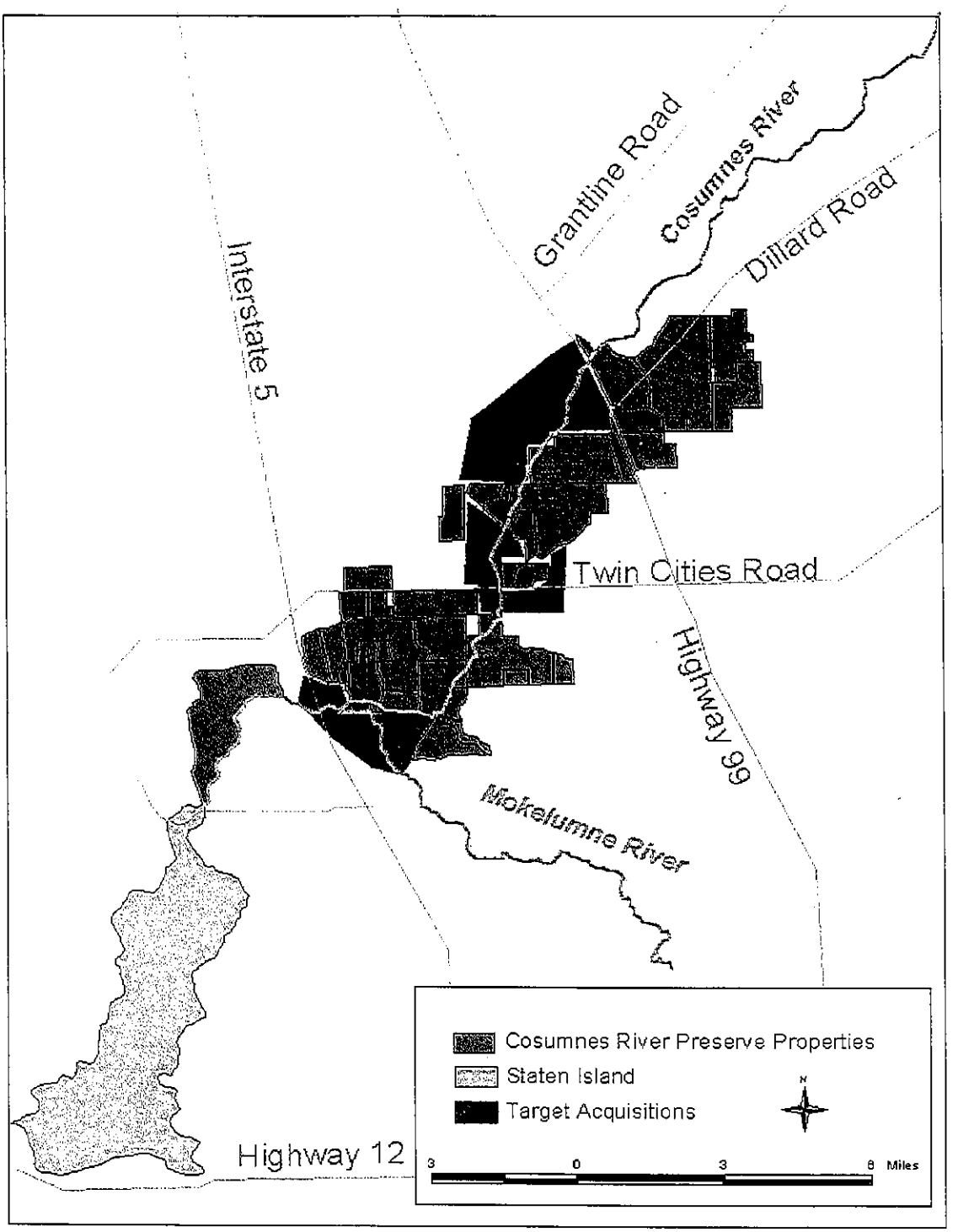
No permitting or environmental clearance is required to implement the proposed acquisitions. All properties or easements to be acquired will be reviewed regarding the condition of the title (e.g., liens, encumbrances, or other factors which might limit enforcement of the conservation restrictions) and the condition of the property (e.g., Phase I inspection for hazardous materials).

As a non-governmental agency, The Nature Conservancy does not typically submit CEQA/NEPA documentation. The Nature Conservancy assumes the funding agency will take the lead on any required CEQA/NEPA documentation and that TNC will provide information as needed.

Cosumnes/Mokelumne Corridor Floodplain Acquisitions, Management, and Restoration Planning



Map 1: Cosumnes River Project



Map 2: Target Acquisition Area

D. Applicability to CALFED ERP Goals and Implementation Plan and CVPIA Priorities

ERP Goals

The following ERP goals can be addressed by this project:

- Goal 1 – recovery of at-risk species – fall-run chinook salmon, spawning splittail, giant garter snake, greater sandhill crane, neotropical migrant bird species and waterfowl.
- Goal 2 – rehabilitation of ecosystem processes and biotic communities – reconnection of river to floodplain, sedimentation, channel meander, riparian recruitment, increased habitat complexity.
- Goal 4 – reestablishment of functional habitats – seasonal floodplain, seasonal wetlands and aquatic habitats, perennial/annual grasslands, fresh emergent wetlands, wildlife-friendly agriculture/agricultural wetlands.

This project will result in a significant reduction of these priority stressors that affect the entire floodplain of the Mokelumne/Cosumnes system:

- loss of existing riparian zones and lack of regeneration potential
- high water temperature
- elevated predation and competition losses among native fishes
- urbanization
- competition from introduced plants
- improper grazing
- impacts of near-stream agriculture

Relationship to other Ecosystem Restoration Projects

Relationship to past projects: This project will benefit from the work that has been accomplished on other Cosumnes River Preserve properties through CALFED funding sources, and builds upon those successes by applying lessons learned in project management, stewardship, biological monitoring, and permitting.

Relationship to future Ecosystem Restoration Projects: As has been stated previously, this project allows for the implementation of levee alterations (breaches and setbacks) thereby allowing for the reintroduction of natural processes and the reestablishment of connectivity between the river and its historic floodplain.

Previous Recipients of CALFED or CVPIA funding

As a result of four previous rounds of proposals, CALFED has awarded TNC and our partners a total of $14,341,878 to acquire and restore additional Preserve lands. These grants have resulted in acquisition (or potential/probable acquisition) of properties totaling almost 4,505 acres. Additionally, almost $1,500,000 in CVPIA funds have been used on the acquisition of Valensin Ranch and Howard Ranch.

System-Wide Ecosystem Benefits

System-wide benefits relating to third parties:

- floodplain restoration will provide greater and more permanent flood protection than the current inadequate levee system; in addition, greater floodplain inundation will encourage aquifer recharge.
- expansion of the Preserve will provide additional appropriate recreational opportunities such as birdwatching, hunting, hiking, and fishing.
- direct production and enhanced survival of juvenile chinook salmon will benefit the commercial fishing industry.
- educational opportunities for local schools will be increased.

- research opportunities for local universities and other parties will be increased, thereby increasing knowledge base for CALFED

Other benefits include those related to associated ecosystem restoration programs, such as:

- anadromous fish restoration efforts called for in the Central Valley Project Improvement Act will be facilitated by the proposed land acquisitions and improvements in the floodplain.
- expanded winter habitat for waterfowl, provided by floodplain inundation, is an objective sought by the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, promoted by the Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture, and to be achieved through this proposal.
- converting marginal agricultural lands back to wetlands is an objective of the USDA Wetland Reserve Program.

Non-ecosystem objectives of CALFED:

- water quality (e.g., temperature, organic material, sediment filtering, etc.) is enhanced by protecting and restoring shaded riverine habitat along the river corridor in both the upper and lower floodplain.
- water supply will be increased by permitting flood waters to infiltrate an enlarged floodplain and recharge groundwater.
- expanding the Cosumnes River floodplain will result in greater floodwater storage and will reduce pressure on downstream Delta levees during storm events.

E. Qualifications

The Nature Conservancy is an international non-profit membership organization whose mission is to preserve the plants, animals, and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. Founded in 1951, The Nature Conservancy and its 1 million members have safeguarded more than 11.6 million acres in the United States. The Conservancy has also worked with like-minded partner organizations to preserve more than 59 million acres in Latin America, the Caribbean, the Pacific, and Asia. The California Regional Office is the Conservancy's largest state program and a leader in program development. Headquartered in San Francisco, The Nature Conservancy of California has 110,000 members and has protected nearly one million acres in the state.

The Nature Conservancy uses a wide variety of tools to help forge solutions to conservation issues. We employ the following four methods most frequently: acquisition of land or conservation easements, land management and restoration, land-use planning and conflict resolution, and community education and outreach. Our strength and reputation are built on the policy and practice of applying the best conservation science available and of building partnerships with local communities, private organizations, and public agencies to achieve mutual conservation goals.

Several of the Conservancy's landmark conservation projects have focused on riparian ecosystems. Conservation efforts aimed at these complex natural communities must include maintaining and restoring the natural processes that are essential to the long-term health of the hydrological system. These projects include the following:

Cosumnes River Project — Sacramento and San Joaquin Counties
Working with public agencies and private landowners, The Nature Conservancy has protected nearly 31,000 acres of riparian forest, seasonal wetland, tidal habitats, vernal pool grasslands, blue oak woodlands, and wildlife-friendly farming along the floodplains and foothills of the Cosumnes River and eastern Delta. The Preserve has created more than 1,000 acres seasonal wetlands, restored 850 acres of riparian forest habitat, and implemented innovative levee set-back projects to restore natural channel meander. The project provides many opportunities for local involvement, including public visitation, research, and cooperative management with neighboring farmers. The Nature Conservancy has begun working downstream, to include protection and restoration of key parcels near the confluence with the Mokelumne River that are critical to the Bay-Delta ecosystem. The Nature Conservancy is an active participant in CALFED's North Delta Improvement Group, a stakeholder group addressing flooding and habitat issues in the Mokelumne Corridor.

Sacramento River Project — Butte, Tehama, Glenn, Colusa Counties
An active participant in the SB 1086 process, The Nature Conservancy is collaborating with local landowners and stakeholders to develop the Sacramento River Conservation Area. To date, approximately 15,000 acres have been protected and approximately 2,340 acres restored, supported by funding from many partners and sources, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Wildlife Conservation Board, Department of Water Resources, and others. Through the site-specific management planning process, the Conservancy is focusing on key sub-reaches of the river that are central to the implementation of a limited meander corridor, a high-priority objective for SB 1086 and CALFED.

Mill Creek, Deer Creek, Battle Creek — Butte, Tehama, Shasta Counties
These tributaries of the upper Sacramento River provide critical habitat for healthy populations of high-priority anadromous fish species, including steelhead trout and winter, spring, fall, and late fall run chinook salmon. Protection of riparian parcels through the purchase of fee and easement interests is essential to ensuring connectivity of habitat to the mainstream of the Sacramento River. Active restoration has also begun on some of the protected parcels, with funding from CALFED and CVPIA and with the cooperation of local watershed conservancies.

There are no known conflicts of interest for The Nature Conservancy in implementing this project.

F. Cost

Budget

Total project costs are $3,044,342.

Acquisition costs of $2,700,000 are estimated capital costs for purchase of conservation easement or fee interests. Actual costs for each property will be based on appraisals. Other costs incurred in acquisition of conservation easements are included in Service Contracts. The Nature Conservancy may request that, if possible, capital funds be placed in escrow prior to a closing or, as an alternative, TNC may close with its own funds and request reimbursement from CALFED for capital costs in addition to other acquisition and closing costs. TNC would request reimbursement for the non-capital acquisition costs regardless of closing status.

Direct salary and benefits of $71,783 are calculated for Tasks described in the Scope of Work. Benefits are calculated at 37.5% of salary paid for hours worked in accordance with our Negotiated Indirect Costs Rate Agreement (NICRA) fringe benefit rate. The staff involved in this project include project management, field representatives, and ecologists.

Service Contracts of $173,000 for conservation acquisitions include the costs of appraisals, phase I assessments, baseline easement monitoring reports, annual monitoring reports, closing costs and other acquisition related services, which may be obtained from a group of vendors that TNC uses on a regular basis and pays from invoice rather than through a written contract. Point Reyes Bird Observatory has been identified as the subcontractor for neotropical bird monitoring. We will solicit competitive bids for construction (clearing debris, fencing, repair and maintenance of infrastructure) services obtained through subcontracts.

Travel, Supplies and Other costs of $25,500 include travel costs, photographs, maps, photocopies among other costs associated with the acquisition and stewardship activities.

Start-up stewardship costs include cultural surveys, infrastructure maintenance and improvement including roads, and demolition of any dangerous structures. Habitat restoration needs (not related to floodplain restoration, per se) will be assessed by Preserve staff.

Baseline monitoring costs include part of Probe's time for one season and the cost for a contract with a firm to carry out the baseline monitoring of the property. These costs will fluctuate based on the size of the parcel(s) purchased. The cost is estimated based on surveys done on previously funded projects.

For preliminary restoration planning we estimate 300 hours of a FTE, as well as the salary for a halftime Research Assistant for one year. Equipment costs of $20,000 are for GPS units and power tools for removing exotic vegetation.

Overhead costs of $54,057 included in this proposal are 20% of total direct project costs, including subcontracts but excluding the purchase price of any land interests. The indirect portion includes costs associated with general office requirements staff, including legal and grants administration staff.

Reporting: TNC will report on a task level. It is understood that these figures are a best estimate at the time the quarterly fiscal report is provided and do not necessarily reflect actual expenses. For invoices, TNC will invoice at the task level.

Separable tasks

If CALFED is able to offer only partial funding for the project, the project applicant would be willing to revise the scope of the project accordingly, either by scaling down the project and/or pursuing additional funding sources.

			Subject to Overhead						Exempt from Overhead			
Year	**Task**	**Direct Labor Hours**	**Salary**	**Benefits**	**Travel**	**Supplies & Expendable**	**Service Contracts**	**Misc and Other Direct Costs**	**Overhead** (20 %)	**Equipment**	**Acquisition Costs**	**Total Cost**
Year 1	Task 1- Land Acquisition	700	$18,975	$7,116	$250		$20,000	$1,000	$9,468		$1,400,000	$1,456,809
	Task 2- Stewardship, Monitoring, Planning	250	$5,856	$2,196	$1,000	$6,000	$35,000	$3,000	$10,610			$63,662
	Task 3- Project Management	100	$1,600	$600		$500		$500	$640			$3,840
Total Cost Year 1		1050	$26,431	$9,912	$1,250	$6,500	$55,000	$4,500	$20,719		$1,400,000	$1,524,312
Year 2	Task 1- Land Acquisition	300	$83,92	$3,147	$250		$15,000	$1,000	$5,558		$1,300,000	$1,333,347
	Task 2- Stewardship, Monitoring, Planning	350	$7,915	$2,968	$1,000	$1,000	$58,000	$3,000	$14,777	$20,000		$108,660
	Task 3- Project Management	100	$1,600	$600		$500		$500	$640			$3,840
Total Cost Year 2		750	$17,907	$6,715	$1,250	$1,500	$73,000	$4,500	$20,975		$1,300,000	$1,445,847

			Subject to Overhead						Exempt from Overhead			
Year	**Task**	**Direct Labor Hours**	**Salary**	**Benefits**	**Travel**	**Supplies & Expendable**	**Service Contracts**	**Misc and Other Direct Costs**	**Overhead** (20 %)	**Equipment**	**Acquisition Costs**	**Total Cost**
Year 3	Task 1- Land Acquisition											
	Task 2- Stewardship, Monitoring, Planning	300	$6,268	$2,351	$1,000	$1,000	$45,000	$3,000	$11,724			$70,343
	Task 3- Project Management	100	$1,600	$600		$500		$500	$640			$3,840
Total Cost Year 3		**400**	**$7,868**	**$2,951**	**$1,000**	**$1,500**	**$45,000**	**$3,500**	**$12,364**			**$74,183**
Totals by Task	Task 1- Land Acquisition	1000	$27,367	$10,263	$500		$35,000	$2,000	$15,026		$2,700,000	$2,790,156
	Task 2- Stewardship, Monitoring, Planning	900	$20,039	$7,515	$3,000	$8,000	$138,000	$9,000	$37,111	$20,000		$242,665
	Task 3- Project Management	300	$4,800	$1,800		$1,500		$1,500	$1,920			$11,520
Total Project Cost		**2200**	**$52,206**	**$19,577**	**$3,500**	**$9,500**	**$173,000**	**$12,500**	**$54,057**	**$20,000**	**$2,700,000**	**$3,044,342**

Schedule milestones

FY 2000-2001 (Oct 1, 2000 – Sept. 30, 2001)

- Negotiate acquisitions with willing landowners. Close acquisitions on at least one parcel.
- Begin start-up stewardship actions.

FY 2001-2003 (Oct 1, 2001 – Sept. 30, 2003)

- Complete acquisitions.
- Complete start-up stewardship, including baseline monitoring and preliminary restoration planning.

Cost-Sharing

Not applicable

G. Local Involvement

The Cosumnes River Project is community-based and has been able to achieve its myriad successes due in large part to the support of local people. Two of our staff members live on-site, and many others live within 10 miles of the project. Our easement program, which now protects over 2000 acres of agricultural lands in perpetuity, has been successful because local farmers share our goals and are willing to participate in our efforts to protect agriculture in a rapidly urbanizing area.

We will also coordinate with local stakeholder organizations, namely the Cosumnes River Task Force (CRTF) and the Mokelumne Cosumnes Watershed Alliance (MCWA), as the project becomes a more formal operation. These groups include all of the relevant Resource Conservation Districts, Reclamation Districts, and other major stakeholders. They will serve as important stakeholder forums for development and implementation of the Cosumnes and Mokelumne River Feasibility Study by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Through the CRTF's and MCWA's regular meetings, we will assure close coordination of this program with their plans and objectives.

The Corps of Engineers' Feasibility Study, funded as a directed action by CALFED in 1999, will provide another vehicle for assuring local and interagency involvement in the activities made possible by this grant. The Corps' Project Study Plan should be complete by June 2000. The Corps process also presents the opportunity for leveraging additional federal dollars for future improvements (such as levee setbacks), and it is the vehicle for engineering and environmental review of specific future activities. In addition, the Cosumnes River Preserve carries out a regular program of outreach to decision-makers and community groups in the greater Sacramento region. Activities in this program include periodic presentations to or participation with the Galt Chamber of Commerce, the North Delta Conservancy, the Delta Protection Commission, service clubs, historical societies, and other groups. These presentations serve to keep key constituencies informed of Preserve activities and to provide the vehicle for further involvement by those who seek it. Our volunteer program, described above, is driven by our neighbors and provides benefits to the local school program. Finally, the Preserve has a web page (www.cosumnes.org) with background information, maps, and descriptions of current programs.

Contractors working on the project are chosen, when available, from the local labor pool, and materials for management and restoration are purchased locally when available.

H. Compliance with Standard Terms and Conditions of the Request for Proposals

Regarding Attachment D, Section 3 Performance Retention, TNC requests that the 10% retention not be required for capital costs.

For Section 4, Expenditure of Funds, TNC requests the following negotiated language used in existing CALFED agreements with The Nature Conservancy (e.g. CALFED project 97-N03):

"Upon written approval of the contract manager, and as long as the total contract amount does not increase, the Conservancy may adjust (1) the budget between individual tasks by no more than 10% and (2) the budget between individual line items within a task by no more than 10%. A request for budget change shall be accompanied by justification showing that the overall scope of the project will not be compromised. In addition, variances, which exceed 10% of a project task's approved budgeted amount, must have approval in advance, with written explanations of programmatic changes to cover such variance and to remain within the maximum contract amount."

For Section 5, it is noted in the Budget section above that appraisals, phase I assessments, baseline monitoring reports, title reports and other acquisition services will be obtained from a group of vendors that TNC uses on a regular basis and pays from invoice rather than through a written contract. Point Reyes Bird Observatory has been identified as the subcontractor for neotropical bird monitoring. The Nature Conservancy will solicit competitive bids for fencing services obtained through subcontracts, or TNC will provide sole source justification if the landowner contracts directly with TNC to supply the fencing service. For any provision of an alternate water source, PG&E will be used to provide electrical services, and bids would be solicited for the well.

For Section 9, The Nature Conservancy requests the following negotiated language used in existing CALFED agreements with TNC (e.g. CALFED project 97-N03):

"Rights in Data. All data and information obtained under contract shall be publicly disclosed only in accordance with California law and the federal Freedom of Information Act. In addition, all appraisals and other information regarding pending transactions shall be treated as confidential and proprietary until the transaction is closed. The Conservancy shall have the right to disclose, disseminate and use, in whole or part, any final form data and information received, collected and developed under this agreement, subject to inclusion of appropriate written acknowledgement of credit to CALFED and all cost sharing partners for their financial support. Use of draft data requires pre-approval by CALFED. The Conservancy shall not sell or grant rights to a third party who intends to sell such product as a profit-making venture."

Section 24, may require revision depending upon the nature of the interest acquired by The Nature Conservancy.

Section 25 may require revision depending upon the nature of the interest acquired by The Nature Conservancy.

I. Literature Cited

Auble, G. T., J. M. Friedman, and M. L. Scott. 1994. Relating riparian vegetation to present and future streamflows. Ecological Applications 4:544-554.

CALFED. 1999. Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan Volume II. June 1999.

CALFED. 2000. Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Programs 2001 Proposal Solicitation Package. March, 2000.

Estep, James A. 1989. Biology, movements, and habitat relationships of the Swainson's hawk in the central valley of California, 1986-87. State of California, The Resources Agency, Department of Fish and Game, 52 pages.

Kennedy, T. and K. Whitener. 2000. Draft report on chinook salmon use of the Cosumnes River Preserve floodplain.

Littlefield, C. D. and G. L. Ivey. 2000. Conservation assessment for greater sandhill cranes wintering on the Cosumnes River floodplain and Delta regions of California. February 2000. Report prepared for The Nature Conservancy, Cosumnes River Preserve. 27 pp

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Mount, J.F. 1995. California Rivers and Streams: The Conflict Between fluvial Process and Land Use. University of California Press, Berkeley, California. 359 pp.

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P&D Technologies. 1992. Lower Cosumnes Master Plan. September 1992. Prepared for the Nature Conservancy.

Philip Williams & Associates, LTD. 1997. Analysis of Opportunities for Restoring a Natural Flood Regime on the Cosumnes River Floodplain. May, 1997. Consultant report prepared for The Nature Conservancy. 88pp

Scott, M. L., J. M. Friedman, G. T. Auble. 1996. Fluvial process and the establishment of bottomland trees. Geomorphology 14:327-339.

Tu, M. In preparation. Role of vegetative reproduction in recruitment and survival of *Populus fremontii* and *Salix spp.* in a California riparian system. Submitted to Wetlands.

Tu, M. In preparation. Riparian vegetation succession along the last uncontrolled river in California Central Valley. Submitted to Restoration Ecology.

Whitener, K. and Kennedy, T. 1999. Evaluation of fisheries relating to floodplain restoration on the Cosumnes River Preserve. Interagency Ecological Program Newsletter, Vol. 12, No. 3, pp. 50-57

Environmental Compliance Checklist

All applicants must fill out this Environmental Compliance Checklist. Applications must contain answers to the following questions to be responsive and to be considered for funding. *Failure to answer these questions and include them with the application will result in the application being considered nonresponsive and not considered for funding.*

1. **Do any of the actions included in the proposal require compliance with either the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), or both?**

   _____ YES X NO

2. **If you answered yes to # 1, identify the lead governmental agency for CEQA/NEPA compliance.**

   _____
   Lead Agency

3. **If you answered no to # 1, explain why CEQA/NEPA compliance is not required for the actions in the proposal.**

   A discresionary decision does not trigger the land acquisition

4. **If CEQA/NEPA compliance is required, describe how the project will comply with either or both of these laws. Describe where the project is in the compliance process and the expected date of completion.**

5. **Will the applicant require access across public or private property that the applicant does not own to accomplish the activities in the proposal?**

   _____ YES X NO

   If yes, the applicant must attach written permission for access from the relevant property owner(s). Failure to include written permission for access may result in disqualification of the proposal during the review process. Research and monitoring field projects for which specific field locations have not been identified will be required to provide access needs and permission for access with 30 days of notification of approval.

6. Please indicate what permits or other approvals may be required for the activities contained in your proposal. Check all boxes that apply.

LOCAL		
Conditional use permit	___	
Variance	___	
Subdivision Map Act approval	___	
Grading permit	___	
General plan amendment	___	
Specific plan approval	___	
Rezone		___
Williamson Act Contract cancellation	___	
Other _____ (please specify)		
None required	X	
STATE		
CESA Compliance	___	(CDFG)
Streambed alteration permit	___	(CDFG)
CWA § 401 certification	___	(RWQCB)
Coastal development permit	___	(Coastal Commission/BCDC)
Reclamation Board approval	___	
Notification	___	(DPC, BCDC)
Other _____ (please specify)		
None required	X	
FEDERAL		
ESA Consultation	___	(USFWS)
Rivers & Harbors Act permit	___	(ACOE)
CWA § 404 permit	___	(ACOE)
Other _____ (please specify)		
None required	X	

DPC = Delta Protection Commission
CWA = Clean Water Act
CESA = California Endangered Species Act
USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
ACOE = U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

ESA = Endangered Species Act
CDFG = California Department of Fish and Game
RWQCB = Regional Water Quality Control Board
BCDC= Bay Conservation and Development Comm.

Land Use Checklist

All applicants must fill out this Land Use Checklist for their proposal. Applications must contain answers to the following questions to be responsive and to be considered for funding. *Failure to answer these questions and include them with the application will result in the application being considered nonresponsive and not considered for funding.*

1. **Do the actions in the proposal involve physical changes to the land(i.e. grading, planting vegetation, or breeching levees) or restrictions in land use (i.e. conservation easement or placement of land in a wildlife refuge)?**

   X
   YES _____ NO

2. **If NO to # 1, explain what type of actions are involved in the proposal (i.e., research only, planning only).**

3. **If YES to # 1, what is the proposed land use change or restriction under the proposal?**
   conservation easements; addition to Cosumnes River Preserve

4. **If YES to # 1, is the land currently under a Williamson Act contract?**

   X
   YES _____ NO

5. **If YES to # 1, answer the following:**

   Current land use Agriculture
   Current zoning Ag. 80
   Current general plan designation _____

6. **If YES to #1, is the land classified as Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance or Unique Farmland on the Department of Conservation Important Farmland Maps?**

   X
   YES _____ NO _____ DON'T KNOW

7. **If YES to # 1, how many acres of land will be subject to physical change or land use restrictions under the proposal?**
   _____ up to 600 ac.

8. **If YES to # 1, is the property currently being commercially farmed or grazed?**

   Y
   YES _____ NO

9. **If YES to #8, what are** the number of employees/acre 0.01
   the total number of employees 6

10. Will the applicant acquire any interest in land under the proposal (fee title or a conservation easement)?

X
YES

_____
NO

11. What entity/organization will hold the interest? The Nature Conservancy

12. If YES to # 10, answer the following:

Total number of acres to be acquired under proposal	600
Number of acres to be acquired in fee	450
Number of acres to be subject to conservation easement	150

13. For all proposals involving physical changes to the land or restriction in land use, describe what entity or organization will:

manage the property	TNC
provide operations and maintenance services	TNC
conduct monitoring	PRBO and others

14. For land acquisitions (fee title or easements), will existing water rights also be acquired?

X
YES

_____
NO

15. Does the applicant propose any modifications to the water right or change in the delivery of the water?

_____
YES

X
NO

16. If YES to # 15, describe_____

APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

OMB Approval No. 0348-0043

2. DATE SUBMITTED	Applicant Identifier
May 12, 2000	
3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE	**State Application Identifier**
4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY	**Federal Identifier**

1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION:

Application: ☐ Construction ☒ Non-Construction

Preapplication: ☐ Construction ☐ Non-Construction

5. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Legal Name: The Nature Conservancy

Organizational Unit: California Regional Office

Address *(give city, county, State, and zip code)*: 201 Mission Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105

Name and telephone number of person to be contacted on matters involving this application *(give area code)*: Mike Eaton (916) 683-1699

6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER *(EIN)*: 53-0242652

7. TYPE OF APPLICANT: *(enter appropriate letter in box)* N

A. State; B. County; C. Municipal; D. Township; E. Interstate; F. Intermunicipal; G. Special District; H. Independent School Dist.; I. State Controlled Institution of Higher Learning; J. Private University; K. Indian Tribe; L. Individual; M. Profit Organization; N. Other (Specify) 501(C) (3) nonprofit

8. TYPE OF APPLICATION:

☒ New ☐ Continuation ☐ Revision

If Revision, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es) ☐ ☐

A. Increase Award; B. Decrease Award; C. Increase Duration; D. Decrease Duration; Other *(specify)*:

9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY:

10. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER: ☐☐-☐☐☐

TITLE:

11. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT: Cosumnes/Mokelumne Corridor Floodplain Acquisitions, Management, and Restoration Planning

12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT *(Cities, Counties, States, etc.)*: Sacramento County

13. PROPOSED PROJECT

Start Date: 10/1/00 Ending Date: 9/30/03

14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF: 11th District

a. Applicant: The Nature Conservancy b. Project: Cosumnes/Mokelumne Corridor Floodplain

15. ESTIMATED FUNDING:

a. Federal	$ 3,044,340 .00
b. Applicant	$ .00
c. State	$ .00
d. Local	$ .00
e. Other	$ .00
f. Program Income	$ .00
g. TOTAL	$ 3,044,340 .00

16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?

a. YES. THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR REVIEW ON:

DATE _____

b. No. ☒ PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E. O. 12372
☐ OR PROGRAM HAS NOT BEEN SELECTED BY STATE FOR REVIEW

17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT?

☐ Yes If "Yes," attach an explanation. ☒ No

18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION/PREAPPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT, THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT WILL COMPLY WITH THE ATTACHED ASSURANCES IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED.

a. Type Name of Authorized Representative	b. Title	c. Telephone Number
Henry Little	Director of Conservation	(415) 777-0867
d. Signature of Authorized Representative		**e. Date Signed**
Henry Little		5/12/00

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Standard Form 424 (Rev. 7-97)
Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SF-424

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

This is a standard form used by applicants as a required facesheet for preapplications and applications submitted for Federal assistance. It will be used by Federal agencies to obtain applicant certification that States which have established a review and comment procedure in response to Executive Order 12372 and have selected the program to be included in their process, have been given an opportunity to review the applicant's submission.

Item:	Entry:
1.	Self-explanatory.
2.	Date application submitted to Federal agency (or State if applicable) and applicant's control number (if applicable).
3.	State use only (if applicable).
4.	If this application is to continue or revise an existing award, enter present Federal identifier number. If for a new project, leave blank.
5.	Legal name of applicant, name of primary organizational unit which will undertake the assistance activity, complete address of the applicant, and name and telephone number of the person to contact on matters related to this application.
6.	Enter Employer Identification Number (EIN) as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service.
7.	Enter the appropriate letter in the space provided.
8.	Check appropriate box and enter appropriate letter(s) in the space(s) provided: -- "New" means a new assistance award. -- "Continuation" means an extension for an additional funding/budget period for a project with a projected completion date. -- "Revision" means any change in the Federal Government's financial obligation or contingent liability from an existing obligation.
9.	Name of Federal agency from which assistance is being requested with this application.
10.	Use the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number and title of the program under which assistance is requested.
11.	Enter a brief descriptive title of the project. If more than one program is involved, you should append an explanation on a separate sheet. If appropriate (e.g., construction or real property projects), attach a map showing project location. For preapplications, use a separate sheet to provide a summary description of this project.

Item:	Entry:
12.	List only the largest political entities affected (e.g., State, counties, cities).
13.	Self-explanatory.
14.	List the applicant's Congressional District and any District(s) affected by the program or project.
15.	Amount requested or to be contributed during the first funding/budget period by each contributor. Value of in-kind contributions should be included on appropriate lines as applicable. If the action will result in a dollar change to an existing award, indicate *only* the amount of the change. For decreases, enclose the amounts in parentheses. If both basic and supplemental amounts are included, show breakdown on an attached sheet. For multiple program funding, use totals and show breakdown using same categories as item 15.
16.	Applicants should contact the State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for Federal Executive Order 12372 to determine whether the application is subject to the State intergovernmental review process.
17.	This question applies to the applicant organization, not the person who signs as the authorized representative. Categories of debt include delinquent audit disallowances, loans and taxes.
18.	To be signed by the authorized representative of the applicant. A copy of the governing body's authorization for you to sign this application as official representative must be on file in the applicant's office. (Certain Federal agencies may require that this authorization be submitted as part of the application.)

BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs

OMB Approval No. 0348-0044

SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY

Grant Program Function or Activity (a)	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget		
		Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)	Federal (e)	Non-Federal (f)	Total (g)
1. Acquisition		$ 2,790,156	$	$	$	$
2. Stew., Mon., Plan		242,665				
3. Project Mgmt		11,520				
4.						
5. Totals		$ 3,044,340	$	$	$	$

SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES

6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY (1) Acquisition	(2) Stew.,Mon.,Plan	(3) Project Mgmt	(4)	Total (5)
a. Personnel	$ 27,367	$ 20,039	$ 4,800	$	$ 52,206
b. Fringe Benefits	10,263	7,515	1,800		19,577
c. Travel	500	3,000			3,500
d. Equipment		20,000			20,000
e. Supplies		8,000	1,500		9,500
f. Contractual	35,000	138,000			173,000
g. Construction					
h. Other and Acquisition	2,702,000	9,000	1,500		2,712,500
i. Total Direct Charges *(sum of 6a-6h)*	2,775,130	205,554	9,600		2,990,283
j. Indirect Charges excluding capt	15,026	37,111	1,920		54,057
k. TOTALS *(sum of 6i and 6j)*	$ 2,790,156	$ 242,665	$ 11,520	$	$3,044,340
7. Program Income	$	$	$	$	$

Authorized for Local Reproduction

Standard Form 424A (Rev. 7-97)
Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

Previous Edition Usable

SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES

(a) Grant Program	(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e) TOTALS
8.	$	$	$	$
9.				
10.				
11.				
12. TOTAL *(sum of lines 8-11)*	$	$	$	$

SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS

	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
13. Federal	$ 1,524,311	$	$	$	$
14. Non-Federal					
15. TOTAL *(sum of lines 13 and 14)*	$ 1,524,311	$	$	$	$

SECTION E - BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT

(a) Grant Program	FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS (Years)			
	(b) First	(c) Second	(d) Third	(e) Fourth
16. Acquisition	$ 1,456,809	$ 1,333,347	$	$
17. Stewardship, Monitoring, Planning	63,662	108,660	70,342	
18. Project Management	3,840	3,840	3,840	
19.				
20. TOTAL *(sum of lines 16-19)*	$ 1,524,311	$ 1,445,847	$ 74,182	$

SECTION F - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION

21. Direct Charges: 2,990,283

22. Indirect Charges: 54,057

23. Remarks: Indirect Costs not calculated on capital costs

OMB Approval No. 0348-0040

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.

2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.

3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.

4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.

5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).

6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.

8. Will comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.

10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is $10,000 or more.

11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).

12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.

13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).

14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.

15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.

16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.

17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."

18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	TITLE
	Director of Conservation
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION	DATE SUBMITTED
The Nature Conservancy	May 12, 2000

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

NONDISCRIMINATION COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

STD. 19 (REV. 3-95)

COMPANY NAME
The Nature Conservancy

The company named above (herinafter referred to as "prospective contractor") hereby certifies, unless specifically exempted, compliance with Government Code Section 12990 (a-f) and California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Division 4, Chapter 5 in matters relating to reporting requirements and the development, implementation and maintenance of a Nondiscrimination Program. Prospective contractor agrees not to unlawfully discriminate, harass or allow harassment against any employee or applicant for employment because of sex, race, color, ancestry, religious creed, national origin, physical disability (including HIV and AIDS), medical condition (cancer), age (over 40), marital status, denial of family care leave and denial of pregnancy disability leave.

CERTIFICATION

I, the official named below, hereby swear that I am duly authorized to legally bind the prospective contractor to the above described certification. I am fully aware that this certification, executed on the date and in the county below, is made under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California.

OFFICIAL'S NAME
Steve McCormick

DATE EXECUTED
May 10, 2000

EXECUTED IN THE COUNTY OF
San Francisco

PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S SIGNATURE

PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S TITLE
Regional Director

PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S LEGAL BUSINESS NAME
The Nature Conservancy

The Nature Conservancy®

California Regional Office
201 Mission Street, 4th Floor
San Francisco, California 94105

TEL 415 777-0487
FAX 415 777-0244 & 415 777-0772

International Headquarters
4245 North Fairfax Drive
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia 22203-1606
TEL 703 841-5300

10 May 2000

Bay Conservation and Development Commission
30 Van Ness Ave., Room2011
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Commission Members:

The Nature Conservancy is submitting a proposal to CALFED for a project that will contribute to the accomplishment of a number of the goals of the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program, Strategic Plan and Multi Species Conservation Strategy. The Nature Conservancy is requesting $3,000,000 to fund the acquisition of fee and easement interest in one or more properties in the floodplains of the Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers (please see Map 1 in proposal for locations). The proposal includes funding for start-up stewardship, baseline monitoring, and initial planning efforts.

The purpose of the proposed acquisitions is to complete a corridor of floodplain lands that can be reconnected to the rivers' floodwaters in order to improve habitat conditions for a number of declining fish species as well as other wildlife and plants dependant upon the natural processes of seasonally flooded forests and farmlands. The provisions for the purchase of conservation easements is included here because some of these properties are more appropriately managed as farmlands that can undergo seasonal flooding. The Nature Conservancy and its partners in the Cosumnes River Project, like CALFED, are committed to balancing the needs of the community with as those of wildlife dependent upon both floodplain habitats and farmlands. The determination as to which properties will be purchased in fee and which will be purchased with conservation easements will be made in the course of the negotiations and determined on a site by site basis.

The proposal is attached; please feel free to contact me if you have any concerns or questions.

Sincerely,

Mike Eaton

Mike Eaton
Project Director, Cosumnes and Delta Projects

The Nature Conservancy®

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201 Mission Street, 4th Floor
San Francisco, California 94105

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FAX 415 777-0244 & 415 777-0772

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Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia 22203-1606
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Clerk
Sacramento County Board of Supervisors
700 H Street, Room 2450
Sacramento, CA 95814

10 May 2000

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Mike Eaton

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TEL 703 841-5300

Tom Hutchings
Planning Director
Sacramento County Department of Planning
827 7th Street, Room 230
Sacramento, CA 95814

10 May 2000

Dear Mr. Hutchings:

The Nature Conservancy is submitting a proposal to CALFED for a project that will contribute to the accomplishment of a number of the goals of the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program, Strategic Plan and Multi Species Conservation Strategy. The Nature Conservancy is requesting $3,000,000 to fund the acquisition of fee and easement interest in one or more properties in the floodplains of the Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers (please see Map 1 in proposal for locations). The proposal includes funding for start-up stewardship, baseline monitoring, and initial planning efforts.

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Sincerely,

Mike Eaton

Mike Eaton
Project Director, Cosumnes and Delta Projects

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Arlington, Virginia 22203-1606
TEL 703 841-5300

Margit Aramburu
Executive Director
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, CA 95690

10 May 2000

Dear Ms. Aramburu:

The Nature Conservancy is submitting a proposal to CALFED for a project that will contribute to the accomplishment of a number of the goals of the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program, Strategic Plan and Multi Species Conservation Strategy. The Nature Conservancy is requesting $3,000,000 to fund the acquisition of fee and easement interest in one or more properties in the floodplains of the Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers (please see Map 1 in proposal for locations). The proposal includes funding for start-up stewardship, baseline monitoring, and initial planning efforts.

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Project Director, Cosumnes and Delta Projects